RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): A scholarship was given to a student who was studying in the Ayurveda College of the Benares Hindu University. He was not a student of the Ayurveda College, Trivandrum.

Rural Panchayats.

124. ***MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR** (*Shencotta*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any rural Panchayats have been established during this year (1109); and

(*b*) if so, how many?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) One.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I ask, Sir, whether the Government do not propose to organise the three Village Panchayats during this year?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The original idea was to organise 15 Panchayats. Subsequently, proposals were received for opening ten Panchayats; and of these eight have already been opened. Government are watching the progress of these eight Panchayats to decide whether more Panchayats should be opened. The whole question whether more Panchayats should be opened and how far they should be developed to meet the rural requirements of the country is under the consideration of Government.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): My question is whether the programme for the year 1109 included the opening of three new Panchayats?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, the opening of three Panchayats was included in the programme, but it was not possible to open them.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether the Panchayats already opened are doing any work?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. I think six of them have already started work.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether there is any Panchayat at Nedumangad?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. there is one.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether that Panchayat is working now?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I think it is working.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): What sort of work has the Panchayat got to do?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Panchayats have got to attend to certain items of work under the Regulation and I think there are obligatory duties and discretionary duties. At present the Panchayats have been asked to take up only the obligatory functions and I believe the Nedumangad Village Panchayat is also attending to these obligatory duties.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether any obligatory duty or duties have already been taken by the Nedumangad Village Panchayat?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) I should think so.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know who its President is?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know from the member whether Government have received representations from the people against the opening of Panchayats?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know from the member whether Government have enquired into those representations?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. Government have received, for instance, one representation from some people of Bhuthapandy. A Panchayat has already been opened there. A few people of that locality sent a petition to Government to say that they do not want the Panchayat. But Government thought that it was too early to condemn the Panchayat which was only opened last year and that it was only fair to give it a chance to justify its existence.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know from the member whether Government have tried to find out the reasons for the people's complaint?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. Government have enquired into their complaint and come to the conclusion that it is too early to say that the Panchayat is not wanted for that locality.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): May I know from the member which are the three Panchayats that were programmed by Government to be opened during the current year?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The places where the three Panchayats were programmed to be opened this year have not been settled. Government have sanctioned the opening of a Panchayat, I believe, at Ayirur during 1109.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): May I know whether Kumarakam was one of the places included in the programme?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sanction has been given for the opening of a Panchayat there.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): What is the delay in opening it?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The nomination of the members of the Panchayat is under correspondence with the Division Peishkar.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): May I know from the member in which year sanction was given to open a Panchayat there?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I think it was in 1108.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): Is not one year sufficient for opening a Panchayat?

PRESIDENT It is a matter of opinion.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam II*): May I know on whose recommendation the opening of the Panchayat was sanctioned by Government?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Dewan Peishkar has been asked to enquire into the question and on his recommendation the Government sanctioned the opening of the Panchayat.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know from the member whether the Ayirur Panchayat has commenced its work?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know the reason for it?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The nomination of the members of the Panchayat is under correspondence with the Division Peishkar.

Board under the Cinematograph Regulation.

125. ***MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR** (*Shencotta*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether a Board has been constituted under the Cinematograph Regulation for the purpose of certifying films for public exhibition;

(*b*) whether the Board has been functioning now: and

(*c*) whether any films have been censored by the Board?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary Government*):

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): In regard to part (*c*), is it open to the Board to disapprove of films approved or certified elsewhere?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I think the films certified elsewhere are accepted by the Board. They are not examined here.

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